

one case, it may be a soldier who is spending the period of his furlough with his family, and who speaks with so much warmth of the benefit which he has derived from reading the little Testament which he has brought home with him, that he excites in the minds of his relatives and acquaintances a desire to become possessed of so excellent a book. The way is thus prepared for any Colporteur who may happen to visit the locality, and the distributions thus effected occupy a very respectable place in the total of our issues. In another locality, it may be a soldier who, having obtained his discharge, returns to his family, and who, in consequence of the great interest he had been led to take in the evening meetings for reading the Scriptures conducted by the Colporteurs, feels a necessity to read a chapter from the New Testament every evening, not secretly and for himself alone, but in company with all the dwellers in his house and such of the neighbours as may be disposed to listen to him. Several of our Colporteurs write to me from different directions, that their most efficient auxiliaries in effecting sales are these Bible readers trained in the Evening Schools in the Camps. They are, in the first place, valuable auxiliaries, because they proclaim that the Word of God is quick and powerful, and capable of changing the heart, and of procuring for it true happiness; and further, because they take under their protection the distributors of this Word, going with them throughout the locality in which they reside, and introducing them as their friends. This species of assistance, I would repeat, is afforded to our Agents to an extent which surprises them; and this fact is well calculated to lead us to see with devout gratitude that the work among the military is the work of the Lord, which we must support with our prayers, and which fully justifies the pecuniary sacrifices connected with it."

In connection with the general Colportage there are to be found incidents of profound interest, as bearing upon the happy influence of the Bible on the hearts and mind of the recipients. How seasonable and appropriate the offer of the Word of God proves, and how salutary in its effects, may be inferred from the annexed fact:—

"One of the Colporteurs was recently accosted on the market-place of a large village by a female in deep mourning, who asked him if three or four months previously he had not been in a village, which she named, and whether he still remembered having in a certain house spent several hours by the bedside of a man who was very ill? "Oh yes," was the reply, "I remember it very well, and what I also remember was the eager joy with which the sick man received the consolation afforded him by the passages which I read from the Gospel, and with what delight he bought a New Testament of me before I left him." "This joy and delight," continued the woman, "only increased in proportion to his sufferings. As his illness in-